

113. The following statement shows the area from which grass was removed by hand and the amount realised :—

No.	Division.	Area.	Amount.	
			Acres.	Rs.
1	East Khándesh	20,234	18,299	
2	West Khándesh	20,827	9,590	
3	Násik	35,241	21,383	
4	Ahmednagar	89,684	3,866	
5	Poona	16,436	4,815	
6	Sátára	10,765	4,645	
7	Sholápur	28,800	5,410	
	Total	221,987	68,008	

In the East Khándesh Division 19,120 cart-loads of grass valued at Rs. 2,390 were removed from the forests on permits. And in the West Khándesh division 18,395 cart-loads, 1,607 head-loads, 655 bullock-loads and 51 donkey-loads were removed on payment of fees amounting to Rs. 2,570. In the Násik division 440 cart-loads and 171,250 bundles of grass were removed and the amount realised was Rs. 423.

In the Ahmednagar division an area of 4,569 acres, the grass on which is valued at Rs. 7,163, was made over to the Commissariat Department and the Remount Department, for the cutting and removal of grass, free of charge.

In the Poona division the grass on 7,586 acres of reserved forests situated in the vicinity of Poona, and on 4,111 acres in Khed, Mulshi and Mával ranges, and yielding grass valued at Rs. 17,000, was placed at the disposal of the Commissariat Department, without any credit being shown in the accounts of the Forest Department.

(2).—Grazing.

114. There was no change in the methods of grazing as reported last year; and the following statement shows the number of cattle of different kinds which grazed in the forests during the year :—

No.	Division.	Buffaloes.	Cows and Bullocks.	Goats and Sheep.	Camels.	Other animals.	Total.
1	East Khándesh	26,113	142,913	77,658	...	1,111	247,795
2	West Khándesh	18,773	167,011	22,864	...	6,868	215,516
3	Násik	12,152	184,822	37,705	...	361	235,040
4	Ahmednagar	4,955	110,651	59,012	...	496	175,114
5	Poona	19,006	120,826	80,667	...	93	220,592
6	Sátára	32,583	158,931	47,688	...	9	239,211
7	Sholápur	1,792	34,248	...	...	36	36,076
	Total	115,374	919,402	325,594	...	8,974	1,369,344

And the following of the above numbers respectively enjoyed free grazing :—

No.	Division.	Buffaloes.	Cows and Bullocks.	Goats and Sheep.	Camels.	Other animals.	Total.
1	East Khándesh	1,899	8,960	...	...	76	10,935
2	West Khándesh	2,327	22,537	144	...	399	25,407
3	Násik	2,328	74,245	500	...	...	77,073
4	Ahmednagar	128	6,596	...	...	...	6,724
5	Poona	15,989	95,007	...	...	...	110,996
6	Sátára	28,240	141,218	...	...	...	169,458
7	Sholápur	468	8,485	...	...	...	8,953
	Total	51,379	357,048	644	...	475	409,546

115. The grass and grazing receipts in the several divisions during the year are compared with those of the year preceding in the table below:—

No.	Division.			1893-94.	1894-95.
				Rs.	Rs.
1	East Khándesh ...	...	...	77,183	86,411
2	West Khándesh ...	...	...	112,709	104,621
3	Násik...	...	...	54,970	62,525
4	Ahmednagar ...	...	...	40,717	41,583
5	Poona...	...	...	44,322	45,243
6	Sátara	...	...	28,864	34,559
7	Sholápur	...	...	27,446	27,256
	Total ...			386,211	402,198

116. In all the divisions, except West Khándesh and Sholápur, there is an increase in the revenue from the sale of grass and grazing. The decrease in the latter division is insignificant, while in the former it amounts to Rs. 8,088, and the Divisional Forest Officer states in explanation of this decrease that if the rainfall is early, large collections are made in June, and if the rains are late or scanty the June grazing fees are very small.

117. The cattle census of the different Collectorates comprising the Central Circle is as under:—

No.	Collectorate.	Cows and Bullocks.	Buffaloes.	Horses.	Asses and Mules.	Sheep.	Goats.	Camels.	Elephants.	Total.
1	Khándesh ...	749,449	197,491	25,951	7,767	36,444	218,984	10	..	1,231,096
2	Násik ...	491,250	74,570	16,485	8,090	117,912	141,642	...	...	844,949
3	Ahmednagar ...	691,703	62,313	26,803	8,477	297,659	208,514	4	...	1,295,473
4	Poona ...	522,607	76,382	14,344	6,706	228,591	132,895	22	...	981,547
5	Sátara...	545,912	167,004	15,393	3,167	348,948	135,169	...	...	1,215,623
6	Sholápur ...	465,606	68,300	13,081	5,928	223,137	121,659	...	...	885,911
	Total ...	3,456,757	646,060	112,057	33,135	1,252,691	953,863	36	...	6,454,599

(3).—Miscellaneous Produce.

118. Hirda, the fruit of the Terminalia chebula, constitutes the main item of the miscellaneous products that are exploited for sale from the forests of the Central Circle, while shikakái, the pod of Acacia concinna, Tarwad, the bark of Cassia auriculata, the leaves of Apta, Bauhinia racemosa, and Tembhurni, Diospyros melanoxylon, are also exploited for sale, but to a lesser degree. In like manner flowers, fruits, honey, wax, surface soil, rock and minerals, reeds, oil, &c., come under this head.

119. There are no Hirdas in the two divisions of Khándesh, but the Roshá grass (*Andropogon schœnanthus*), the right of distilling oil from which is sold by auction, forms the main part of the minor products, and Rs. 534 and Rs. 16,339 were realised in the Eastern and Western divisions respectively. Twenty-four cart-loads of green stones, which are used by lapidaries in Bombay, were extracted from the forests of the Chálisgaon range in the Eastern Division by a contractor for Rs. 144.

120. In the Násik division the Roshá grass produced Rs. 1,500, and the leaves of Apta and Tembhurni Rs. 1,424, while 13 deshi khandis, 7 maunds, 3 pailis and 3 sers of collected Hirda nuts were sold.

121. In the Ahmednagar division 32 deshi khandis and 9 pailis of Hirdas were collected departmentally and sold for Rs. 1,762, and some other minor forest products fetched Rs. 1,422.

122. The collection of Hirda under the share system in the Poona division realised Rs. 938. 205 khandis, 26 maunds and 6 lbs. were collected, but owing to dull Hirda market 134 khandis in the ranges of Mulshi, Haveli and Mával were not sold. Revenue from other minor products amounted to Rs. 1,772.